

February 5, 2003

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Commission Secretary,
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
CY-B402
Washington, DC 20554
RE: Proceeding 03-16

As a chamber of commerce we are very supportive of competition in the market place. The telecommunications industry has certainly been a shining example of the concept of competition, even though, it has raised many “thorny” issues that are being processed.

I am appreciative of the efforts to bring full competition with all telecommunications services in our state. Our businesses and residents will certainly benefit by having the option of choosing from a variety of providers for the particular services they require.

In this regard, I support SBC’s petition before the Federal Communications Commission to allow SBC to offer long distance service in Michigan. Local service has been fully opened to all, and it is only right in a free market system that long distance be likewise open to all.

SBC was recently endorsed by the Michigan Public Service Commission to offer Long Distance service in Michigan. I trust that the FCC will look favorable at this endorsement and will approve of SBC long distance service in Michigan.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Tebedo
Vice President